

**SHEPSHED  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the Medical Officer of Health  
and  
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector  
for the Year 1948

By

**A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.**  
Medical Officer of Health  
and  
**R. B. JONES, Cert. R.S.I.**  
Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector



# Medical Officer of Health's Report, 1948.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1948.

It will be noted that according to the Registrar General's estimate the population has increased from 5,771 in 1947 to 6,058 in 1948.

Both birth rate and death rate for your area and for England and Wales have fallen as compared with 1947. The death rate for Shepshed in 1948 is the **lowest on record**. The death rate for infants under 1 year of age is lower than that for England and Wales.

Under the heading of "General Provision of Health Services" a resume is given of the great changes that have taken place.

A Ministry of Health inquiry with regard to extension of Sewage Disposal Works, and extension of Sewerage to the "Forest" area was held, and the Ministry agreed to a modified form of the extensions.

During the year 47 houses were completed, 39 by the local authority and 8 by private enterprise. The houses in course of erection at the end of the year were 100. The number of applications for Council houses was 325.

It is to be hoped that housing can proceed at a greater rate so that early consideration can be given to the sub-standard dwellings which now of necessity, have to be occupied.

41 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, 19 Scarlet Fever, all of which were mild. Only 5 cases of Measles and 8 of Whooping Cough were reported. Although there were only 6 cases of Pneumonia, 2 died.

Only 4 new cases of Tuberculosis were notified, this is lower than usual.

On and after July 5th, the County Council are responsible for Immunisation.

I must express my thanks to the public health staff of the County Council for their ever willing help and co-operation.

Finally, I wish to thank Mr. R. B. Jones, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for his valuable assistance throughout the year and in compiling this report, and to you gentlemen for your kindness and co-operation.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Chairman : R. ELLIS, J.P.

Clerk of the Council : H. W. BERESFORD.

Medical Officer of Health : A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector : R. B. JONES, Cert. R.S.I.

Gas and Water Engineer : J. E. MATLOCK.

## Section A.

### General Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area (in acres) ... ... ... ...	4321
Registrar-General's estimate of Resident Population	6058
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1948) ...	1803
Rateable Value ... ... ... ...	£25,586
Sum representing 1d. rate ... ... ...	£100

Shepshed is situated in pleasant surroundings on the northern borders of the Charnwood Forest. Its main industries are quarrying, manufacture of hosiery, boots and shoes, bricks and tiles. There is a public park with paddling pool and playground for children.

During the year no industry was noticed as having an adverse effect on health.

### Vital Statistics.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Live Births { Legitimate	63	52	115
Illegitimate	2	2	4
	—	—	—
Total	65	54	119
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	19.6
(England and Wales) ...	"	...	17.9
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Still Births { Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	—	—	—
1	2	3	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	.49
(England and Wales) ...	"	...	.42
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths ... ...	26	26	52
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	8.5
(England and Wales) ...	"	...	10.8

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSE.	M.	F.	TOTAL
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	—	3	3
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	2	1	3
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	1	2
Cancer of Buv. ; Cav. ; and Oesoph			
(M) Uterus (F) ...	1	—	1
Cancer of all other Sites ...	3	2	5
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ...	3	3	6
Heart Diseases ...	8	3	11
Other Diseases of Circ. system ...	—	3	3
Bronchitis ...	—	2	2
Pneumonia ...	—	2	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	1	1	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	1	—	1
Other Digestive Diseases ...	1	2	3
Nephritis ...	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents ...	1	—	1
All other causes ...	3	2	5
Total ...	26	26	52

Total Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) 0

    "(England and Wales)" ...     "     "     " ... 1.02

Death of Infants under 1 year of age :

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate ...	0	1	1
Illegitimate ...	1	0	1
Total ...	—	—	—
	1	1	2

Death Rate of All Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births :

Shepshed ...	...	...	...	16.8
England and Wales ...	...	...	...	34.0

Death Rate per 1,000 live births under 2 years of age from Enteritis and Diarrhoea :

Shepshed ...	...	...	...	8.4
England and Wales ...	...	...	...	3.3

Chief Causes of Death :

Heart Disease ...	...	...	...	11
Cancer (all forms) ...	...	...	...	9
Intracranial Vascular Lesions ...	...	...	...	6

## Section B.

### General Provisions of Health Service for the Area.

GENERAL provisions for the Health Services up to July 4th were the same as in my Report for 1947, and the following embodies the changes that have taken place from July 5th to the end of the year.

**HOSPITALS** : From July 5th all except some private Maternity and Nursing Homes were taken over by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. The previous are still mainly used but other hospitals under the Board are available, and occasionally some outside the area of the Sheffield Region.

**TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS** : As formerly the Infant Welfare Centre is still held at the Adult Schools Hall, Shepshed, under the County Council and the Tuberculosis Clinic at John Street, Loughborough, but the latter is under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

**AMBULANCE FACILITIES** : From July 5th all Ambulance services were provided by the County Council, but the St. John Ambulance Brigade undertook the work as agents of the County Council, and in this area the service is mainly provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade at Loughborough, and partly from the County Ambulance Depot, Leicester. Colliery accidents were removed by Ambulance provided by the National Coal Board stationed at the Central Ambulance Station, Nailstone Colliery.

**NURSING IN THE HOME** : All District Nursing and Midwifery in the Home was under the County Council from July 5th.

**HEALTH VISITING** : As before this work is provided by the County Council, and is very ably carried out in the area.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The County Council Laboratory, 8, St. Martin's Leicester.

The examinations performed on behalf of the District in the County Laboratory are as follows :—

Milk Examinations	...	...	110
Water Examinations	...	...	7
		—	—
		Total	117

The Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester.

The following examinations were made :—

Throat Swab	...	...	...	1
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## Section C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

(i) WATER SUPPLY. The Council being the Water Undertaking purchase supply in bulk from Loughborough Corporation.

(ii) DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE. See Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(iii) CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. The Council have continued their grant to property owners to encourage the conversion of pail to water closets. During the year 22 conversions were carried out, making a total of 574 conversions since the subsidy was commenced.

Privies	...	...	54
Pail Closets	...	...	433
W.C's	...	...	1556

(iv) SCAVENGING. This is done in a very satisfactory manner by the Public Health Department.

(v) SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(vi) SHOPS. No action taken.

(vii) CAMPING SITES. None in the Urban Area.

(viii) SMOKE ABATEMENT. Informal action only.

(ix) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS. See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(x) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS. See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(xi) SCABIES. No action taken.

## Section D.

### Housing.

Houses completed during year	Perman- ant	Av. Cost per house	Av. Rent inclusive of Rates
Local Authority ...	39	£1330	21/-
Private Enterprise ...	8	£1300	Owner Occ.
Houses in course of erection at end of year :—			
(1) Local Authority ...	98	£1330	21/-
(2) Private Enterprise ...	2	£1350	Owner Occ.

#### I. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Act) ... ...	162
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	214
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ...	8
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	10
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ...	8
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ...	20

#### II. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices ... ...

16

#### III. Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

(a) Proceedings under Section 9, 10, 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	Nil
(2) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by Owners ... ...	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	34
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—					
	(a) by Owners	...	...	...	...	14
	(b) by Local Authority in default of owners					Nil

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	Nil

In the older part of the town a large percentage of dwellings are sub-standard. Owing to the acute housing shortage consideration of these properties under the Housing Acts is postponed until sufficient new houses are erected to meet the immediate need.

## Section E.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

## Section F.

### Prevalence of, and Control of, Infectious and Other Diseases.

#### Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

		Final Numbers After Correction	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	19	16	0
Measles	...	5	0	0
Pneumonia	...	6	0	2
Erysipelas	...	3	1	0
Other cases admitted to Hospital (One baby with mother)	...	0	1	0
Whooping Cough	..	8	0	0
Total	...	41	18	2

#### Analysis under Age Group in accordance with Form 118D of Registrar-General's Returns.

Ages	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Whooping Cough
0—1	0	1	2
1—3	1	1	2
3—5	3	1	4
5—10	11	2	0
10—15	3	0	0
15—25	1	0	0
Total	19	5	8

Ages	Pneumonia	Erysipelas
0—5	0	0
5—15	1	0
15—45	2	1
45—65	3	1
65 & over	0	1
Total	6	3

## Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Number immunised from 1st January to 4th July, 1948 :—

Under 5 years of age	...	...	60
5—14 years of age ...	...	...	1
			—
			61

Number who have received a reinforcing injection (Booster dose) ...	...	3
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## STATEMENT OF PARTICULARS APPEARING IN THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER FOR THE YEAR 1948.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
No. of cases in the Register at the commencement of year ... ... ...	12	12	24	9	8	17	41
No. of cases notified during the year ... ... ...	1	2	3	1	0	1	4
No. of cases restored to the Register ... ... ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No. of cases added other than by notification ...	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
No. of cases removed from the Register during the year ... ... ...	2	1	3	1	1	2	5
No. of cases remaining on the Register at end of year	12	13	25	9	7	16	41

## CAUSES OF REMOVAL.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Died ... ... ...	2	1	1	0	4
Cured ... ... ...	0	0	0	1	1
Total ... ... ..	2	1	1	1	5

## Factories Act, 1937.

Resume of Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1948, previously sent to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour & National Service, Headquarters, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

### PART 1 of the ACT.

#### 1. INSPECTION for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises (1)	M/C Line No. (2)	No. on Register (3)	Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities ...	1	3	20	0	0
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities ...	2	35	60	0	0
Total ...	...	38	80	0	0

#### 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND : (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "Cases.")

	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Ref. to H.M. Inspector	Ref. to H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) insufficient	1	1	0	0
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	0	0
Total ...	2	2	0	0

PART VIII of the ACT.

OUTWORK.

(SECTIONS 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August list Required by Section 110	No. of cases of defaults in sending lists to the Council	No. of Pros. for failure to supply lists
Wearing Apparel. (Making, etc.)	177	0	0

# Sanitary Inspector's Report.

## 1. Water.

No. of Samples taken for analysis from pipe supply	...	Nil
No. of Samples taken for analysis from wells	...	5
No. of wells closed	...	30
No. of cases in which public supply was substituted for well supply	...	47

The public supply of the district was satisfactory in quality and quantity.

The whole of the Urban Area except for isolated farms now served by public supply.

No. of dwellings served direct from public mains—1419. Population—4934. No. of dwellings served by stand-pipe—344. Population—956.

## 2. Drainage and Sewerage.

No. of cesspools constructed during the year	...	Nil
No. of cesspools abolished during the year	...	Nil
No. of cesspools in district 31st December, 1948	...	92

Ministry of Health approved in principle extension of sewers to Forest Area and extension of sewage disposal plant.

## 3. Closet Accommodation.

Total number in district at end of 1948 :—

Privies	...	...	54
Pail Closets	...	...	433
W.C's	...	...	1556
Pail Closets converted to W.C's	...	...	22

## 4. Scavenging.

Refuse collection is carried out by direct labour with covered lorry and taken to a tip situate away from dwelling houses.

Pail closets are emptied at night, weekly, in tumbler carts and taken on to agricultural land. The only privies in the district are in farms and cottages outside the scavenging area. Cesspools are emptied by owners.

## 5. Sanitary Inspection of Area.

Total number of complaints received	...	92
Total number of defects discovered	...	68

### INSPECTIONS MADE.

		First Inspections	Revisits
Animal Keeping	...	52	0
Bakehouses	...	28	0
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	70	71
Drainage Works	...	110	0
Dwelling Houses (all purposes)		162	52
Food Premises	...	106	0
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	50	0
Refuse Collection and Disposal		140	0
Schools	...	10	6
Shops	...	30	35
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspections	...	184	0
Water Supplies	...	20	10
Workshops	...	20	0
Other Inspections	...	278	0
Total	...	1260	174

## 6. Notices.

Preliminary	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on 1st January, 1948	8	5
Issued during year ...	34	56
Complied with during year ..	38	61
Statutory Notice necessary ...	18	0
Outstanding 31st December, 1948	3	1

Statutory	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on 1st January, 1948	7	0
Issued during the year ...	18	0
Complied with during year ...	14	0
Outstanding 31st December, 1948	4	0

SUMMARY ACTION — NIL.

### 7. Shops.

No action taken.

### 8. Camping Sites.

None in Urban Area.

### 9. Regulated Buildings.

None in Urban Area.

### 10. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No action taken.

### 11. Schools.

No. of schools disinfested	...	Nil
No. of schools disinfected	...	3

### 12. Swimming Baths and Pools open to Public.

No. in area :—

(a) Publicly owned	...	1
(b) Privately owned	...	Nil
Number of inspections	...	90

Children's Paddling Pool only, main supply of water, regularly dosed with "Chloras."

### 13. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### (a) MILK SUPPLY :

##### COWKEEPERS.

No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding at 31st Dec.
27	141	0	1	0	1

##### DAIRYMEN OR PURVEYORS OF MILK (other than Cowkeepers)

No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding at 31st Dec.
4	26	0	0	0	0

##### TOTAL CONTRAVENTIONS.

	Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding at 31st Dec.
Cleansing ...	0	4	4	0
Structural				
Alterations	0	1	0	1
Utensils ...	0	0	0	0
Other ...	0	0	0	0

66 samples were taken for bacteriological examination of which 53 were satisfactory.

(b) ICE CREAM :

There are no manufacturers in this area. There are two registrations for sale by retail, the premises are satisfactory. Samples taken were placed Grade 1.

(c) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :

Number of Regional Slaughterhouses in Area	...	Nil
Number of animals slaughtered elsewhere	...	230
Number of animals examined elsewhere	...	200
Number of inspections of meat at times of slaughter	110	

No carcases or parts were condemned for disease.

			No. of Inspections
Meat Stores, Meat Shops, etc.	...	...	135
Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale	...	...	106

R. B. JONES,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.



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